

REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, Claims 1-60, 65 and 66 will be pending in the present application. Claims 61-64 and 67-70 have been canceled without prejudice.

The Examiner's indication that independent Claims 1, 33, 65 and 66 are allowable is acknowledged with appreciation.

In the Office Action, Claims 68, 69 and 70 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 101 and 112. By the present Amendment, Claims 68, 69 and 70 have been canceled.

Claims 61-64 and 67 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over Geng '669. By the present Amendment, Claims 61-64 and 67 have been canceled.

The remaining claims have been indicated to be allowable. Accordingly, it is submitted that Claims 1-60, 65 and 66 are in condition for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance of this application is therefore respectfully requested.

In the event that it would facilitate prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (412) 263-4340.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan G. Towner", is written over the typed name.

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